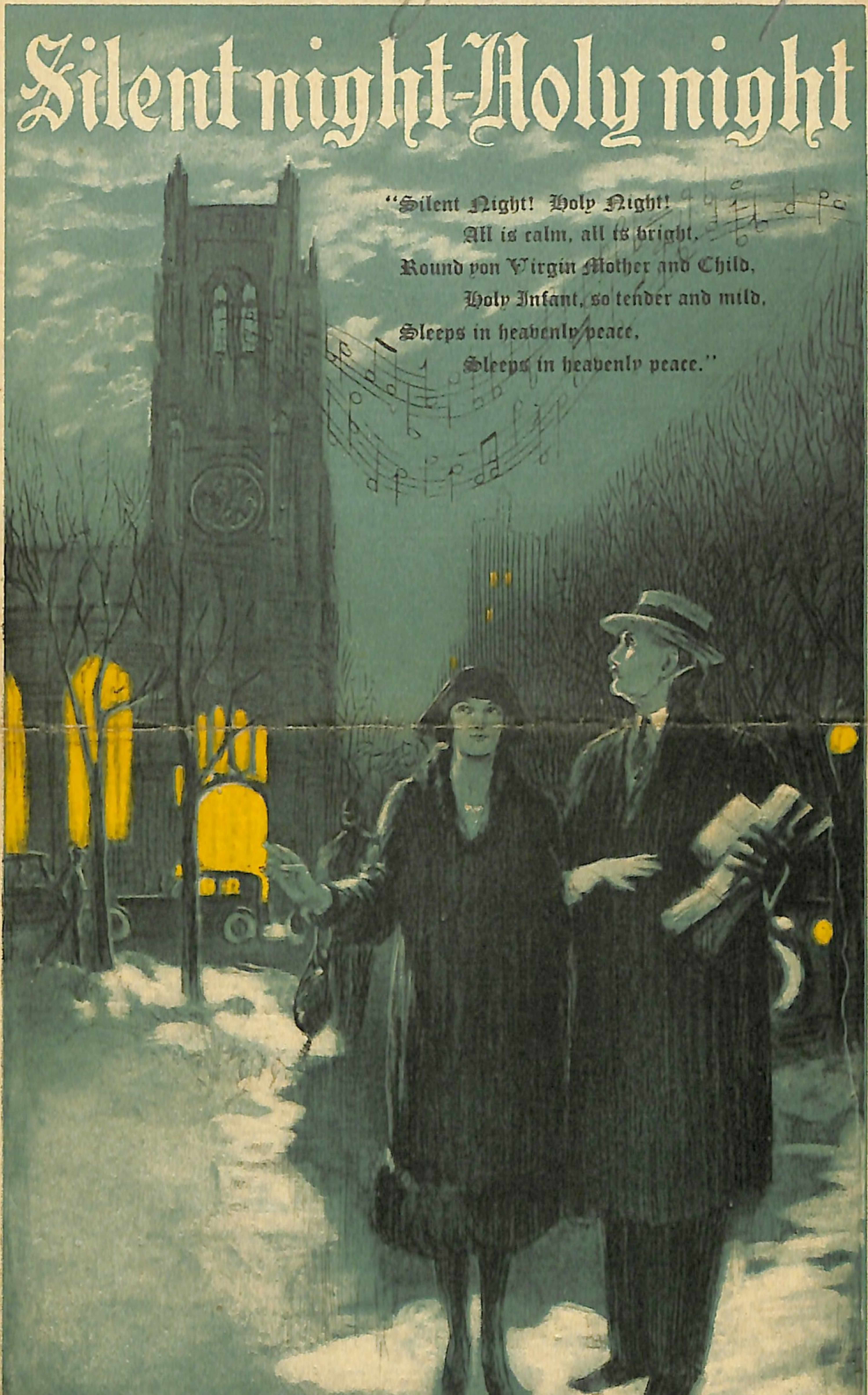
Uncommon Living in Common Ways

Silent night-Holy night



"Silent Night! Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleeps in heavenly peace,
Sleeps in heavenly peace."

Jan 19, 1947

Uncommon Living in Common Ways.
Mark 14:22 And as they were eating.

Intro. ~~The surprise of the children at the Oregon State line.~~ There is a sameness everywhere you go. Mts., valleys, rivers, trees and flowers, cities and towns. The sun, moon and stars always look about the same.

There is a great deal of the commonplace to life. Experiences are common the world over. Mother-love much the same among all people, We all eat and sleep and work and play, more or less, in the same way. The struggle for existance is active in the lives of everybody. There is a sameness even to the things of the higher life. Wherever you go you find groups worshipping deity.

Just as the children expected to see things very much different up in Oregon and Washington, far away from their own common environment, so we all look away from ourselves, to others for the unusual, the extraordinary. The thrills, the rare experiences are for others, not for us, so we commonly reason.

Then again, no matter how exalted a career we choose for a life-work, after we have been in it for a number of years and are familiar with all ins and outs of the professional game, there is a tendency on our part to regard the whole matter as rather commomplace.

The first year of teaching is full of enthusiasm, inspiration and interest- the tenth year becomes often boresome. The first yr of preaching is much the same- a challenge of life's ideals, the exaltation of common life into the very heavens. The tenth yr, after many disillusionments and heart-breaking failures- well, the edge of enthusiasm and inspiration is often dulled, to say the least.

You can always tell newly weds. Sidney McKee. After a number of yrs of family trials and troubles love is'nt any longer so arduous or so blind.

Why, even travelers who spend their lives gazing upon the outstanding sights of the world, lose their thrill of it all. ~~The Lady looking at Bridal Veil Falls.~~
Grand Canyon — "Just a big hole in the ground"

~~Lately have been reading the Bible a book at a sitting.~~ I came across a part of a sentence that caused my mind to flow in the stream of thot which I have chosen to consider this morning. Mark begins the story of the Institution of the Lord's Supper thus (Mk. 14:22 "And as they were eating".

Out of that commonplaced experience of eating arose the most precious ordinance of the Church- fellowship anc communion with God and with one another in Christ!

I. Never did anone exalt the commomplace as did Jesus.
  He made ordinary fishermen into fishers of men.
  He made just a common little child into the only True en
  entrance into heaven
  He made the poor widow and her mite immortal
  He lifted the woman of the street into angelic livin
  He made common seeds preach great messages of truth
    from God.
  He made the everyday things and happenings of life
    glow with shining light.
  He made common sinners live godly lives.

II. What is the secret of the Christ Magic that can transform the commonplace into exalted being and action?

1.

1. Jesus gives himself wholly to God.
  "I and my Father are one."
  "I am in the Father and the Father in me"
  "My Father works and I must work"
  "My meat is to do the will of my Father who sent me

2. All nature was a manifestation of God to Christ.
  Jesus saw that all things were working together for good, because back of it all and within it all wa God. Nothing, therefore, was common to Jesus.

"A commonplace life, we say, and we sigh;
  But why do we sigh as we say?
The commonplace sun in the commonplace sky
  Makes up the commomplace day.
The moon and the stars are commonplace things,
  And the flower that blooms and the bird that sings;
But dark were our day and sad our lot,
If the flowers failed and the sun shone not.
  So God who studies each separate soul,
Out of commonplace things makes his beautiful whole".

3. Christ's realiaation of oneness with God directed and inspired him in all his living and in all his doings.

The great mission of Christ was shaped in the consciousousness of Jesus with God. Apart from his at-onement with God ~~there could have~~ Christ could not have made atonement for sin, could not have gone about doing the good he did in the way he did it.

II. We,too, are priveleged to live exalted lives in the thesame consciousness of atonement with God.

To give oneself to God, to place oneself in harmony wi with the great creative intelligence, with the cosmic forces , to go forward with the great plan and purpose of all things as a part of it and a contributing factor to its ulitmate achievements, this is the life of inspiration and exaltation amidst the commonplace, the life that transforms all commonplace things into God and spiritual powers,and ~~nob e~~ makes us see that all things are indeed working together for good, because God is in them all and is directing them all and God is Good.

Scientists tell us that we do not use but a tenth of our brain power. We use less of our soul power.

Natural Intelligence, Courage and Character, Creative Ability, the Talent which God has given each one of us All these can be awakened in larger measure if we will put ourselves in tune with the Infinite.

Dr.Frank Crane's "Bigger and Better Sins"

The most bored people in the world are those who make a business of sinning, there is such a sameness to sinning. Only ten commandments to break.

But they who dedicate their lives to being good and doi g good find plenty of adventure and life becomes full of interest to them. They are lined up with the cosmi forces, they are in tune with the Infinite, their lives count for things worth while and they are happy.

Wm.Wordsworth-

"My heart leaps up when I behold a rainbow in the sky; So was it when my life began; so is it now I am a man; So be it when I grow old, Or let me die."